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30 June 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR: 25X1A9a  
SUBJECT: Report on Danube Navigation  
REFERENCE: Your memorandum 2935-L-2315, dated 9 May 1958

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1. This will acknowledge receipt of your memorandum of 9 May 1958 and enclosures from [REDACTED] "Report on Danube Navigation."

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2. This is an excellent report, especially for physical river data and capacity estimates. With the possible exception of fleet data, there are few, if any significant differences between estimates [REDACTED]

3. The principal gaps in the report appear to be in the portions dealing with the administration of the various national fleets. However, as the major portion of the fleets, particularly in the Bloc area are State owned or controlled, this gap may not be too important.

4. With specific reference to Chapter 1, page 5, we point out that West German barge lines now have full access to the Danube from Regensburg to the Soviet Black Sea ports. This was reported to the West German Press on October 28, 1957, and was brought about when the German firms of Bavarian Lloyd of Regensburg and Josef Willner of Deggendorf on the one hand, and the Soviet Danube Shipping Organization as the other party, concluded an agreement guaranteeing unrestricted traffic for their fleets for the entire length of the Danube. Similar agreements had already been concluded between the German firms and the shipping companies of all other riparian states. The agreements are between shipping companies rather than between States. This method was an expedient to offset the absence of diplomatic relations between West Germany and the other riparian States with the exceptions of the USSR and Yugoslavia.

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5. Please express my appreciation to [REDACTED] for sending me a copy of this excellent report. I feel that it represents a major contribution to our field. Please pass my sincere personal regards to him also.

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[REDACTED]

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